

# Learn another language: It's your best choice!

Choosing to learn another language will advance you academically, aid your preparation for a career, and help your social progression.

## Academics

Research shows that learning another language:

- Enhances overall cognitive development.
- Helps to cultivate the ability to think flexibly.
- Increases creativity.
- Augments English vocabulary.
- Expands knowledge of English grammar.
- Produces higher-level thinking and reasoning skills.
- Improves writing and reading skills.
- Strengthens long- and short-term memory.
- Boosts overall communication ability.

Recent studies by the College Board Admissions Testing Program have shown a positive correlation between **higher SAT and ACT test scores** and the study of foreign languages. Student's SAT and ACT test scores (including English and Math sections) improved dramatically for each half year of a foreign language taken. No other subject area, by itself, produced these same results.

## Career

Employers want to hire workers who can:

- Communicate effectively.
- Adapt to new situations and expectations.
- Integrate old knowledge with new knowledge.
- Learn quickly.
- Work with others in a team situation.
- Respect diversity.
- Listen.

Learning another language helps a person to develop all of these skills and qualities. In addition, Numerous surveys of employers have indicated that with other things being equal, **an applicant who speaks another language would be hired** over one who does not. Thousands of US and foreign businesses in all economic sectors are specifically **looking for bilingual workers**. As the world economy becomes increasingly interdependent, the value of a bilingual worker continues to rise.

## Social

Students who study another language have the opportunity to:

- Make new friends.
- Develop self-confidence.
- Improve communication skills.
- Learn about another culture and develop sensitivity toward others.
- Participate in a club.

A foreign language classroom is an **interactive environment** where students learn through sharing and expressing themselves. This kind of environment is perfect for all kinds of positive social development.